representing an annotation as an object having a plurality of properties wherein one of the plurality of properties is a document identifier property; and

associating the annotation with a content source using the document identifier property, said document identifier property identifying the content source with which the annotation is associated, said annotation being retrievable from an annotation server in a multiple tier computing system.

In the Abstract:

Please combine and amend the paragraphs beginning on page 18, lines 2, 6, and 11, to read as follows:

A computing system capable of associating annotations with millions of content sources is described. An annotation is any content associated with a document space. The document space is any document identified by a document identifier. The document space provides the context for the annotation. An annotation is represented as an object having a plurality of properties. The annotation is associated with a content source using a document identifier property. The document identifier property identifies the content source with which the annotation is associated. A scalable computing system for managing annotations responds to requests for presenting annotations to millions of documents a day. The computing system consists of multiple tiers of servers. A tier I server indicates whether there are annotations associated with a content source. A tier II server provides an index to the body of the annotations. A tier III server provides the body of the annotation.

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